

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4769

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA BEYO

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 0457

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, PINR, TZ

SUBJ: MAJOR SHAKEUP TAKES PLACE IN TANZANIAN MILITARY

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT NYERERE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED REMOVAL OF FOUR MOST SENIOR TANZANIAN PEOPLE'S DEFENSE FORCE (TPDF) OFFICERS FROM MILITARY COMMAND POSITIONS. SHAKEUP REFLECTS EFFORT TO GET OFFICERS OF UNQUESTIONED LOYALTY AS WELL AS REASONABLY COMPETENT TO TOP OF TPDF. CHANGES MAY ALSO BE RELATED TO PRESENT UNDERCURRENT OF SUSPICION AND UNEASE EXISTING THROUGHOUT TANZANIAN SECURITY APPARATUS. END SUMMARY.

2. MAJOR GENERAL M. S. H. SARAHIKYA, COMMANDER OF TPDF AND ONLY OFFICER HOLDING RANK OF GENERAL, HAS BEEN NAMED MINISTER OF NATIONAL CULTURE AND YOUTH, NEWLY CREATED MINISTRY WHICH WILL ALSO HANDLE SPORTS ACTIVITY, SARAHIKYA'S FIRST LOVE. LT. COL. ABDALLAH TWALIPO, REGIONAL COMMISSIONER AND TANU REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR WEST LAKE, WAS NAMED NEW COMMANDER OF TPDF. TWALIPO JOINED KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES IN 1947. HE COMES FROM TUNDURU
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NEAR MOZAMBIQUE BORDER AND HAS REPUTATION FOR LOYALTY AND COM-

PETENCY.

3. POSITION OF CHIEF OF STAFF, NUMBER TWO IN HIERACHY, WAS FILLED FOR FIRST TIME SINCE POSITION ESTABLISHED OVER YEAR AGO BY LT. COL. M. N. MKWERA, CO 8TH FIELD ENGINEERING BATTALION AT KIDUGALO.

4. NYERERE ANNOUNCED CREATION OF TWO NEW BRIGADES WITH HEAD-QUARTERS AT DAR ES SALAAM AND TABORA IN CENTRAL TANZANIA. CO OF EASTERN BRIGADE IS COL. D. B. MUSUGURI, FORMER HEAD OF PERSONNEL. CO OF WESTERN BRIGADE IS LT. COL. S. P. MAYUNGA, FORMER HEAD OF OPERATIONS.

5. COL. AMIN KASHMIRI, CHIEF OF LOGISTICS AND ENGINEERING BRANCH, WAS APPOINTED GENERAL MANAGER OF NEWLY CREATED SUGAR DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. TRANSFER OF KASHMIRI TAKES FROM TPDF, MANY BELIEVE, ITS MOST COMPETENT OFFICER. COL. S. J. KITUNDU, CHIEF OF POLITICAL EDUCATION, BECAME CHAIRMAN OF PERMANENT COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY IN PLACE OF CHIEF ERASTO MANG'ENYA WHO WILL CONTINUE IN HIS JOB AS SPEAKER OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. COL. M. M. MARWA, PREVIOUSLY IN CHARGE OF PEOPLE'S MILITIA TRAINING, REPLACED TWALIPO AS REGIONAL COMMISSIONER IN WEST LAKE. AS REPORTED IN DAR ES SALAAM A-23, LT. COL. GEOFFREY MAREALLE, CHIEF OF OPERATIONS AND TRAINING, WAS RECENTLY ASSIGNED AS MILITARY ATTACHE TO TANZANIA'S EMBASSY IN PEKING.

6. NO REPLACEMENTS HAVE BEEN NAMED FOR THREE KEY POSITIONS: CHIEF OF OPERATIONS AND TRAINING, CHIEF OF LOGISTICS AND ENGINEERING BRANCH, AND OFFICER IN CHARGE OF PEOPLE'S MILITIA TRAINING.

7. IN ANOTHER APPOINTMENT, H. D. SEMBUCHE, COMMISSIONER FOR CULTURE IN MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION, WAS NAMED PRINCIPAL SECRETARY IN NEW MINISTRY OF NATIONAL CULTURE AND YOUTH.

8. COMMENT: CHANGES NOTED ABOVE EFFECTIVELY REMOVE FROM COMMAND POSITIONS FOUR MOST SENIOR OFFICERS IN TPDF. NEW APPOINTMENTS JUMP SEVERAL LT. COLONELS ABOVE FULL COLONELS. ALTHOUGH BOTH MAJEALLE AND KASHMIRI HAVE BEEN UNDER CLOUD DURING CURRENT PERIOD OF SUSPICION AND UNEASE IN SECURITY APPARATUS, SARAKIKYA
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AND KITUNDU WERE PUT OUT TO PASTURE MOST PROBABLY FOR LACK OF COMPETENCY. SHAKEUP MAY ALSO REFLECT JITTERY SECURITY SITUATION EXISTING IN TANZANIA IN RECENT WEEKS.
CARTER

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